This facility will be available to scientists to analyse ice cores, lake sediments, rocks samples etc., essential for carrying out research on paleo-climate and past climatic changes. This research in turn will help in testing complex climate models and improving the weather prediction capabilities of the country.

Voting right to migrated Indians

†1530. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give right to vote to the migrated Indians settled in other countries including the Gulf Countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries from where demand has been made by migrated Indians with regard to right to vote?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No. Section 19(b) of the R.P. Act, 1950 provides that only a person who is ordinarily resident in a constituency shall be entitled to be registered in the electoral roll for that constituency. Accordingly, any person who is not ordinarily resident in a constituency is not entitled to be registered in the electoral roll.

(b) There has been a demand from the Gulf region that NRIs should be permitted to exercise their franchise in Indian elections, both for Parliament and for the various State Legislatures.

Prime Minister's meeting with NRIs

1531. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister met NRIs in New York in September, 2004;

(b) if so, the points discussed and ideas emanated; and

(c) the action taken to create a more attractive climate for foreign investment?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes. The Prime Minister had a meeting with prominent Indian-American Chief Executive Officers (CEOs).

(b) Their suggestions to create a more attractive climate in India for foreign investment were welcomed by the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister called for greater people-to-people contact and closer interaction in the fields of research, higher education and development of India's infrastructure and financial sectors.

(c) Government has recently set up an Investment Commission.

Permission sought by CBI for Investigation

1532. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been awaiting sanctions from several State Governments as well as Union Government for carrying out investigation and prosecution against Ministers and officials for violations under Prevention of Corruptions Act and under the Indian Penal Code;

(b) if so, the details of cases where CBI has awaiting sanctions from the appropriate authorities, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not according sanction in the respective cases, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Decision is taken by the Government considering all aspect of the matter which takes some time.

Code of conduct for bureaucrats

1533. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government propose to evolve a moral code of conduct